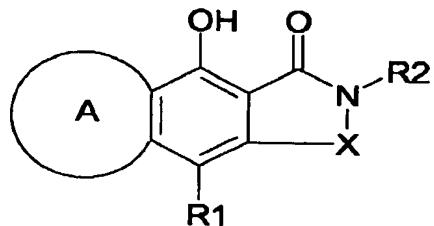


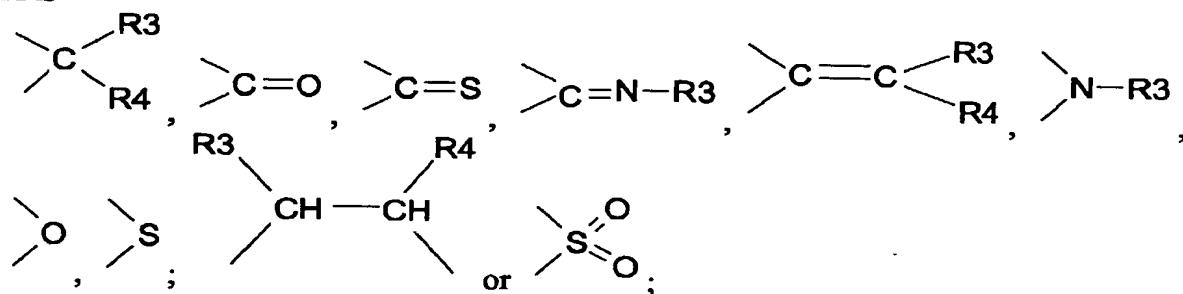
CLAIMS

1. A compound having the formula (I),



5 and their N-oxides, salts, stereoisomeric forms, racemic mixtures, prodrugs, esters and metabolites thereof, wherein

X is



10 A, also mentioned as "A-ring", together with the two carbons of the phenyl ring to which it is attached forms a monocyclic aryl or a monocyclic Het²;

R¹ is hydrogen, halogen, nitro, cyano, sultam, sultim, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, C(=O)-R⁵, S(=O)_y-R⁶, OR⁷, NR⁸R⁹, C(=NR⁸)-R⁵, optionally polysubstituted C₁₋₆alkyl, optionally polysubstituted C₂₋₆alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted C₂₋₆alkynyl;

15 whereby the optional substituents on C₁₋₆alkyl, C₂₋₆alkenyl and C₂₋₆alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, aryl, Het¹, Het², C(=O)-R⁵, S(=O)_y-R⁶, OR⁷, and NR⁸R⁹;

R² is hydrogen, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, aryl, Het¹, Het², C(=O)-R⁵, S(=O)_y-R⁶, OR⁷, NR⁸R⁹, C(=NR⁸)-R⁵, or optionally polysubstituted C₁₋₆alkyl, optionally polysubstituted

20 C₂₋₆alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted C₂₋₆alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on C₁₋₆alkyl, C₂₋₆alkenyl and C₂₋₆alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, aryl, Het¹, Het², C(=O)-R⁵, S(=O)_y-R⁶, OR⁷, and NR⁸R⁹;

R³ is hydrogen, halogen, nitro, cyano, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, aryl, C(=O)-R⁵, S(=O)_y-R⁶, OR⁷, 25 NR⁸R⁹, optionally polysubstituted C₁₋₆alkyl, optionally polysubstituted C₂₋₆alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted C₂₋₆alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on C₁₋₆alkyl, C₂₋₆alkenyl and C₂₋₆alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, aryl, C(=O)-R⁵, OR⁷, and NR⁸R⁹;

R^4 is hydrogen, halogen, nitro, cyano, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl or C_{1-6} alkyl;
 y represents an integer being zero, one or two;
 R^5 is hydrogen, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, Het¹, Het², $C(=O)-R^{10}$, OR^{12} , NR^8R^{13} , optionally
5 polysubstituted C_{1-6} alkyl, optionally polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkenyl or optionally
polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on C_{1-6} alkyl,
 C_{2-6} alkenyl and C_{2-6} alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro,
cyano, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, Het¹, Het², $C(=O)-R^{10}$, $S(=O)_y-R^{11}$, OR^{12} , and NR^8R^{13} ;
 R^6 is hydrogen, aryl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, Het¹, Het², OR^{12} , NR^8R^{13} , optionally
10 polysubstituted C_{1-6} alkyl, optionally polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkenyl or optionally
polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on C_{1-6} alkyl,
 C_{2-6} alkenyl and C_{2-6} alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro,
cyano, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, Het¹, Het², $C(=O)-R^{10}$, $S(=O)_y-R^{11}$, OR^{12} , and NR^8R^{13} ;
 R^7 is hydrogen, aryl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, Het¹, Het², $C(=O)-R^{10}$, $S(=O)_y-R^{11}$, or optionally
15 polysubstituted C_{1-6} alkyl, optionally polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkenyl or optionally
polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on C_{1-6} alkyl,
 C_{2-6} alkenyl and C_{2-6} alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro,
cyano, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, Het¹, Het², $C(=O)-R^{10}$, $S(=O)_y-R^{11}$, OR^{12} , and NR^8R^{13} ;
 R^8 is hydrogen, aryl, Het¹, Het², C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl or
20 polyhalo C_{1-6} alkyl;
 R^9 is hydrogen, aryl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, Het¹, Het², $C(=O)-R^{10}$, $S(=O)_y-R^{11}$, $C(=NR^8)-R^5$,
optionally polysubstituted C_{1-6} alkyl, optionally polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkenyl or
optionally polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on
25 C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl and C_{2-6} alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen,
nitro, cyano, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, Het¹, Het², $C(=O)-R^{10}$, $S(=O)_y-R^{11}$, OR^{12} and
 NR^8R^{13} ;
 R^{10} is hydrogen, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, Het¹, Het², $C(=O)-R^8$, $C(=O)-OR^8$, $C(=O)-NR^8R^8$,
30 OR^8 , $O-C(=O)-R^8$, $O-S(=O)_y-R^8$, $S(=O)_y-R^8$, NR^8R^8 , $NR^8-C(=O)-R^8$,
 $NR^8-S(=O)_y-R^8$, optionally polysubstituted C_{1-6} alkyl, optionally polysubstituted
 C_{2-6} alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkynyl; whereby the optional
35 substituents on C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl and C_{2-6} alkynyl are each independently
selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, Het¹, Het², $C(=O)-R^8$,
 $C(=O)-OR^8$, $C(=O)-NR^8R^8$, $S(=O)_y-R^8$, $S(=O)_y-OR^8$, $S(=O)_y-NR^8R^8$, OR^8 ,
 $O-C(=O)-R^8$, $O-S(=O)_y-R^8$, NR^8R^8 , $NR^8-C(=O)-R^8$, and $NR^8-S(=O)_y-R^8$;
 R^{11} is hydrogen, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, Het¹, Het², OR^8 , $O-C(=O)-R^8$, $O-S(=O)_y-R^8$,
40 NR^8R^8 , $NR^8-C(=O)-R^8$, $NR^8-S(=O)_y-R^8$, optionally polysubstituted C_{1-6} alkyl,
optionally polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkynyl;
whereby the optional substituents on C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl and C_{2-6} alkynyl are each

independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, Het^1 , Het^2 , $C(=O)-R^8$, $C(=O)-OR^8$, $C(=O)-NR^8R^8$, $S(=O)_y-R^8$, $S(=O)_y-OR^8$, $S(=O)_y-NR^8R^8$, OR^8 , $O-C(=O)-R^8$, $O-S(=O)_y-R^8$, NR^8R^8 , $NR^8-C(=O)-R^8$, and $NR^8-S(=O)_y-R^8$;

5 R^{12} is hydrogen, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, Het^1 , Het^2 , $C(=O)-R^8$, $C(=O)-OR^8$, $C(=O)-NR^8R^8$, $S(=O)_y-R^8$, $S(=O)_y-OR^8$, $S(=O)_y-NR^8R^8$, optionally polysubstituted C_{1-6} alkyl, optionally polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl and C_{2-6} alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, Het^1 , Het^2 , $C(=O)-R^8$, $C(=O)-OR^8$, $C(=O)-NR^8R^8$, $S(=O)_y-R^8$, $S(=O)_y-OR^8$, $S(=O)_y-NR^8R^8$, OR^8 , $O-C(=O)-R^8$, $O-S(=O)_y-R^8$, NR^8R^8 , $NR^8-C(=O)-R^8$, and $NR^8-S(=O)_y-R^8$;

10 R^{13} is hydrogen, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, Het^1 , Het^2 , $C(=O)-R^8$, $C(=O)-OR^8$, $C(=O)-NR^8R^8$, $S(=O)_y-R^8$, $S(=O)_y-OR^8$, $S(=O)_y-NR^8R^8$, optionally polysubstituted C_{1-6} alkyl, optionally polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl and C_{2-6} alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, Het^1 , Het^2 , $C(=O)-R^8$, $C(=O)-OR^8$, $C(=O)-NR^8R^8$, $S(=O)_y-R^8$, $S(=O)_y-OR^8$, $S(=O)_y-NR^8R^8$, OR^8 , $O-C(=O)-R^8$, $O-S(=O)_y-R^8$, NR^8R^8 , $NR^8-C(=O)-R^8$, and $NR^8-S(=O)_y-R^8$;

15 R^{14} is hydrogen, phenyl, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl; aryl as a group or part of a group represents a monocyclic or polycyclic aromatic or a

20 partially saturated monocyclic or polycyclic carbocycles wherein any such carbocycle within the meaning of aryl may have up to 14 carbon atoms and may be optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from halogen, nitro, oxo, cyano, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, Het^1 , Het^2 , $C(=O)-R^8$, $S(=O)_y-R^{14}$, OR^{14} , $NR^{14}R^{14}$, $NR^{14}-O-C(=O)-R^{14}$, $NR^{14}-C_{1-6}$ alkanediyl- $NR^{14}-Het^1$, $NR^{14}-C_{1-6}$ alkanediyl- $NR^{14}-Het^2$, optionally polysubstituted C_{1-6} alkyl, optionally polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkenyl, optionally polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkynyl and optionally polysubstituted phenyl; whereby the optional substituents on C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl and C_{2-6} alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, phenyl, $C(=O)-R^{14}$, OR^{14} , Het^1 , Het^2 , $C(=O)-Het^1$, $C(=O)-Het^2$, and $NR^{14}R^{14}$; and whereby

25 the optional substituents on phenyl are each independently selected from halogen, hydroxy, C_{1-6} alkyl, polyhalo C_{1-6} alkyl, $O-C_{1-6}$ alkyl, and C_{1-6} alkanediyl- $NR^{14}R^{14}$; Het^1 as a group or part of a group represents a saturated or partially unsaturated monocyclic, bicyclic or tricyclic heterocycle having 3 to 14 ring members, which contains one or more heteroatom ring members selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, and which may be optionally substituted on a carbon atom or where possible a nitrogen atom with one or more substituents independently selected from halogen, nitro, oxo, cyano, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, $C(=O)-R^{14}$, $S(=O)_y-R^{14}$, OR^{14} , $NR^{14}R^{14}$,

30

35

NR¹⁴-O-C(=O)-R¹⁴, optionally polysubstituted C₁-alkyl, optionally polysubstituted C₂-alkenyl, optionally polysubstituted C₂-alkynyl and optionally polysubstituted phenyl; whereby the optional substituents on C₁-alkyl, C₂-alkenyl and C₂-alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, phenyl, C(=O)-R¹⁴, OR¹⁴, and NR¹⁴R¹⁴; and whereby the optional substituents on phenyl are each independently selected from halogen, hydroxy, C₁-alkyl, polyhaloC₁-alkyl, O-C₁-alkyl, and C₁-alkanediyl-NR¹⁴R¹⁴;

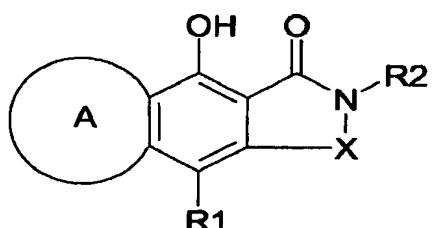
5 Het² as a group or part of a group represents an aromatic monocyclic, bicyclic or tricyclic heterocycle having 5 to 14 ring members, which contains one or more heteroatom ring members selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, and which may be optionally substituted on a carbon atom or where possible a nitrogen atom with one or more substituents independently selected from halogen, nitro, oxo, cyano, C₃-cycloalkyl, C(=O)-R¹⁴, S(=O)_y-R¹⁴, OR¹⁴, NR¹⁴R¹⁴, NR¹⁴-O-C(=O)-R¹⁴, optionally polysubstituted C₁-alkyl, optionally polysubstituted C₂-alkenyl, 10 optionally polysubstituted C₂-alkynyl and optionally polysubstituted phenyl; whereby the optional substituents on C₁-alkyl, C₂-alkenyl and C₂-alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, phenyl, C(=O)-R¹⁴, OR¹⁴, and NR¹⁴R¹⁴; and whereby the optional substituents on phenyl are each independently selected from halogen, hydroxy, C₁-alkyl, polyhaloC₁-alkyl, O-C₁-alkyl, and 15 C₁-alkanediyl-NR¹⁴R¹⁴;

15 for use as a medicine.

2. A compound according to claim 1 for the manufacture of a medicament for treating or combating infection or disease associated with retrovirus infection in a mammal.

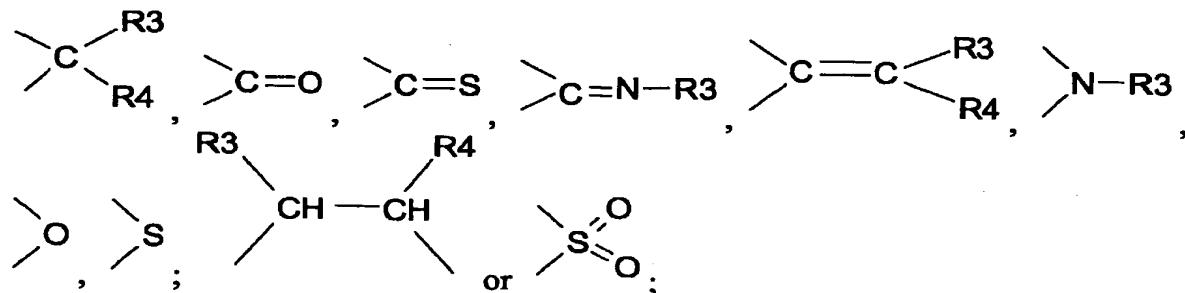
25

3. A compound having the formula (I)



its N-oxide, salt, stereoisomeric form, racemic mixture, prodrug, ester or metabolite thereof, wherein

30 X is



A, also mentioned as "A-ring", together with the two carbons of the phenyl ring to which it is attached forms a monocyclic aryl or a monocyclic Het²;

5 R¹ is hydrogen, halogen, nitro, cyano, sultam, sultim, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, C(=O)-R⁵, S(=O)_y-R⁶, OR⁷, NR⁸R⁹, C(=NR⁸)-R⁵, optionally polysubstituted C₁₋₆alkyl, optionally polysubstituted C₂₋₆alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted C₂₋₆alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on C₁₋₆alkyl, C₂₋₆alkenyl and C₂₋₆alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, aryl, Het¹, Het², C(=O)-R⁵, S(=O)_y-R⁶, OR⁷, and NR⁸R⁹;

10 R² is hydrogen, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, aryl, Het¹, Het², C(=O)-R⁵, S(=O)_y-R⁶, OR⁷, NR⁸R⁹, C(=NR⁸)-R⁵, or optionally polysubstituted C₁₋₆alkyl, optionally polysubstituted C₂₋₆alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted C₂₋₆alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on C₁₋₆alkyl, C₂₋₆alkenyl and C₂₋₆alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, aryl, Het¹, Het², C(=O)-R⁵, S(=O)_y-R⁶, OR⁷, and NR⁸R⁹;

15 R³ is hydrogen, halogen, nitro, cyano, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, aryl, C(=O)-R⁵, S(=O)_y-R⁶, OR⁷, NR⁸R⁹, optionally polysubstituted C₁₋₆alkyl, optionally polysubstituted C₂₋₆alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted C₂₋₆alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on C₁₋₆alkyl, C₂₋₆alkenyl and C₂₋₆alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, aryl, Het¹, Het², C(=O)-R⁵, S(=O)_y-R⁶, OR⁷, and NR⁸R⁹;

20 R⁴ is hydrogen, halogen, nitro, cyano, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl or C₁₋₆alkyl; y represents an integer being zero, one or two;

25 R⁵ is hydrogen, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, aryl, Het¹, Het², C(=O)-R¹⁰, OR¹², NR⁸R¹³, optionally polysubstituted C₁₋₆alkyl, optionally polysubstituted C₂₋₆alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted C₂₋₆alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on C₁₋₆alkyl, C₂₋₆alkenyl and C₂₋₆alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, aryl, Het¹, Het², C(=O)-R¹⁰, S(=O)_y-R¹¹, OR¹², and NR⁸R¹³;

30 R⁶ is hydrogen, aryl, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, Het¹, Het², OR¹², NR⁸R¹³, optionally polysubstituted C₁₋₆alkyl, optionally polysubstituted C₂₋₆alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted C₂₋₆alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on C₁₋₆alkyl,

C_{2-6} alkenyl and C_{2-6} alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, Het¹, Het², $C(=O)-R^{10}$, $S(=O)_y-R^{11}$, OR^{12} , and NR^8R^{13} ;
 5 R^7 is hydrogen, aryl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, Het¹, Het², $C(=O)-R^{10}$, $S(=O)_y-R^{11}$, or optionally polysubstituted C_{1-6} alkyl, optionally polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl and C_{2-6} alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, Het¹, Het², $C(=O)-R^{10}$, $S(=O)_y-R^{11}$, OR^{12} , and NR^8R^{13} ;
 10 R^8 is hydrogen, aryl, Het¹, Het², C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl or polyhalo C_{1-6} alkyl;
 15 R^9 is hydrogen, aryl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, Het¹, Het², $C(=O)-R^{10}$, $S(=O)_y-R^{11}$, $C(=NR^8)-R^5$, optionally polysubstituted C_{1-6} alkyl, optionally polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl and C_{2-6} alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, Het¹, Het², $C(=O)-R^{10}$, $S(=O)_y-R^{11}$, OR^{12} and NR^8R^{13} ;
 20 R^{10} is hydrogen, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, Het¹, Het², $C(=O)-R^8$, $C(=O)-OR^8$, $C(=O)-NR^8R^8$, OR^8 , $O-C(=O)-R^8$, $O-S(=O)_y-R^8$, $S(=O)_y-R^8$, NR^8R^8 , $NR^8-C(=O)-R^8$, $NR^8-S(=O)_y-R^8$, optionally polysubstituted C_{1-6} alkyl, optionally polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl and C_{2-6} alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, Het¹, Het², $C(=O)-R^8$, $C(=O)-OR^8$, $C(=O)-NR^8R^8$, $S(=O)_y-R^8$, $S(=O)_y-OR^8$, $S(=O)_y-NR^8R^8$, OR^8 , $O-C(=O)-R^8$, $O-S(=O)_y-R^8$, NR^8R^8 , $NR^8-C(=O)-R^8$, and $NR^8-S(=O)_y-R^8$;
 25 R^{11} is hydrogen, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, Het¹, Het², OR^8 , $O-C(=O)-R^8$, $O-S(=O)_y-R^8$, NR^8R^8 , $NR^8-C(=O)-R^8$, $NR^8-S(=O)_y-R^8$, optionally polysubstituted C_{1-6} alkyl, optionally polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl and C_{2-6} alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, Het¹, Het², $C(=O)-R^8$, $C(=O)-OR^8$, $C(=O)-NR^8R^8$, $S(=O)_y-R^8$, $S(=O)_y-OR^8$, $S(=O)_y-NR^8R^8$, OR^8 , $O-C(=O)-R^8$, $O-S(=O)_y-R^8$, NR^8R^8 , $NR^8-C(=O)-R^8$, and $NR^8-S(=O)_y-R^8$;
 30 R^{12} is hydrogen, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, Het¹, Het², $C(=O)-R^8$, $C(=O)-OR^8$, $C(=O)-NR^8R^8$, $S(=O)_y-R^8$, $S(=O)_y-OR^8$, $S(=O)_y-NR^8R^8$, optionally polysubstituted C_{1-6} alkyl, optionally polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl and C_{2-6} alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, Het¹, Het², $C(=O)-R^8$, $C(=O)-OR^8$, $C(=O)-NR^8R^8$, $S(=O)_y-R^8$, $S(=O)_y-OR^8$, $S(=O)_y-NR^8R^8$, OR^8 , $O-C(=O)-R^8$, $O-S(=O)_y-R^8$, NR^8R^8 , $NR^8-C(=O)-R^8$, and $NR^8-S(=O)_y-R^8$;
 35

R^{13} is hydrogen, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, Het^1 , Het^2 , $C(=O)-R^8$, $C(=O)-OR^8$, $C(=O)-NR^8R^8$, $S(=O)_y-R^8$, $S(=O)_y-OR^8$, $S(=O)_y-NR^8R^8$, optionally polysubstituted C_{1-6} alkyl, optionally polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl and C_{2-6} alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, Het^1 , Het^2 , $C(=O)-R^8$, $C(=O)-OR^8$, $C(=O)-NR^8R^8$, $S(=O)_y-R^8$, $S(=O)_y-OR^8$, $S(=O)_y-NR^8R^8$, OR^8 , $O-C(=O)-R^8$, $O-S(=O)_y-R^8$, NR^8R^8 , $NR^8-C(=O)-R^8$, and $NR^8-S(=O)_y-R^8$;
 R^{14} is hydrogen, phenyl, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl; aryl as a group or part of a group represents a monocyclic or polycyclic aromatic or a
5 partially saturated monocyclic or polycyclic carbocycles wherein any such carbocycle within the meaning of aryl may have up to 14 carbon atoms and may be optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from halogen, nitro, oxo, cyano, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, Het^1 , Het^2 , $C(=O)-R^8$, $S(=O)_y-R^{14}$, OR^{14} , $NR^{14}R^{14}$, $NR^{14}-O-C(=O)-R^{14}$, $NR^{14}-C_{1-6}$ alkanediyl- $NR^{14}-Het^1$,
10 $NR^{14}-C_{1-6}$ alkanediyl- $NR^{14}-Het^2$, optionally polysubstituted C_{1-6} alkyl, optionally polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkenyl, optionally polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkynyl and optionally polysubstituted phenyl; whereby the optional substituents on C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl and C_{2-6} alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, phenyl, $C(=O)-R^{14}$, OR^{14} , Het^1 , Het^2 , $C(=O)-Het^1$, $C(=O)-Het^2$, and $NR^{14}R^{14}$; and whereby
15 the optional substituents on phenyl are each independently selected from halogen, hydroxy, C_{1-6} alkyl, polyhalo C_{1-6} alkyl, $O-C_{1-6}$ alkyl, and C_{1-6} alkanediyl- $NR^{14}R^{14}$; Het^1 as a group or part of a group represents a saturated or partially unsaturated
20 monocyclic, bicyclic or tricyclic heterocycle having 3 to 14 ring members, which contains one or more heteroatom ring members selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, and which may be optionally substituted on a carbon atom or where possible a nitrogen atom with one or more substituents independently selected from halogen, nitro, oxo, cyano, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, $C(=O)-R^{14}$, $S(=O)_y-R^{14}$, OR^{14} , $NR^{14}R^{14}$, $NR^{14}-O-C(=O)-R^{14}$, optionally polysubstituted C_{1-6} alkyl, optionally polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkenyl, optionally polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkynyl and optionally polysubstituted phenyl; whereby the optional substituents on C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl and C_{2-6} alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, phenyl, $C(=O)-R^{14}$, OR^{14} , and $NR^{14}R^{14}$; and whereby the optional substituents on phenyl are each independently selected from halogen, hydroxy, C_{1-6} alkyl, polyhalo C_{1-6} alkyl, $O-C_{1-6}$ alkyl, and C_{1-6} alkanediyl- $NR^{14}R^{14}$;
25 Het^2 as a group or part of a group represents an aromatic monocyclic, bicyclic or tricyclic heterocycle having 5 to 14 ring members, which contains one or more heteroatom ring members selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, and which may

be optionally substituted on a carbon atom or where possible a nitrogen atom with one or more substituents independently selected from halogen, nitro, oxo, cyano, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, C(=O)-R¹⁴, S(=O)_y-R¹⁴, OR¹⁴, NR¹⁴R¹⁴, NR¹⁴-O-C(=O)-R¹⁴, 5 optionally polysubstituted C₁₋₆alkyl, optionally polysubstituted C₂₋₆alkenyl, optionally polysubstituted C₂₋₆alkynyl and optionally polysubstituted phenyl; whereby the optional substituents on C₁₋₆alkyl, C₂₋₆alkenyl and C₂₋₆alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, phenyl, C(=O)-R¹⁴, OR¹⁴, and NR¹⁴R¹⁴; and whereby the optional substituents on phenyl are each independently selected from halogen, hydroxy, C₁₋₆alkyl, polyhaloC₁₋₆alkyl, O-C₁₋₆alkyl, and 10 C₁₋₆alkanediyl-NR¹⁴R¹⁴;

with the proviso that compounds:

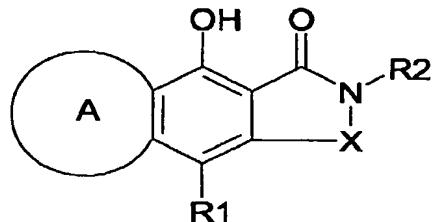
- 9-(2,4-Dimethoxy-phenylimino)-9H-benzo[f]isoindole-1,3,4-trione,
- 9-(2,4-Dimethoxy-phenylimino)-2-phenyl-9H-benzo[f]isoindole-1,3,4-trione,
- 6,7-Dichloro-9-(2,4-dimethoxy-phenylimino)-2-phenyl-9H-benzo[f]isoindole-15 1,3,4-trione,
- 4-[6,7-Dichloro-4-(2,4-dimethoxy-phenylimino)-1,3,9-trioxo-1,3,4,9-tetrahydrobenzo[f]isoindol-2-yl]-benzonitrile,
- 6,7-Dichloro-9-(4-methoxy-2-methyl-phenylimino)-2-phenyl-9H-benzo[f]isoindole-1,3,4-trione,
- 9-(4-Dimethylamino-phenylimino)-2-phenyl-9H-benzo[f]isoindole-1,3,4-trione,
- 4-Diethylamino-9-hydroxy-2-phenyl-benzo[f]isoindole-1,3-dione,
- 4-(But-3-enyl-ethyl-amino)-9-hydroxy-2-phenyl-benzo[f]isoindole-1,3-dione,
- 4-(Ethyl-pent-4-enyl-amino)-9-hydroxy-2-phenyl-benzo[f]isoindole-1,3-dione,
- 4,9-dihydroxy-2-methyl-benzo[f]isoindole-1,3-dione,
- 4,8-dihydroxy-6-methyl-2-oxa-6-aza-s-indacene-5,7-dione,
- 5,9-dihydroxy-7-methyl-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoline-6,8-dione,
- 4,9-dihydroxy-2-methyl-pyrrolo[3,4-g]isoquinoline-1,3-dione,
- 4,9-dihydroxy-2,6-dimethyl-benzo[f]isoindole-1,3-dione,
- 4,9-dihydroxy-6-methoxy-2-methyl-benzo[f]isoindole-1,3-dione,
- 5-fluoro-4,9-dihydroxy-2-methyl-benzo[f]isoindole-1,3-dione,
- 6,7-dichloro-4,9-dihydroxy-2-methyl-benzo[f]isoindole-1,3-dione,
- 6-cyclohexyl-4,8-dihydroxy-1-thia-6-aza-s-indacene-5,7-dione,
- 4,9-dihydroxy-6-methyl-2-phenyl-benzo[f]isoindole-1,3-dione,
- 7-cyclohexyl-5,9-dihydroxy-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoline-6,8-dione,
- 2-cyclohexyl-4,9-dihydroxy-6-methoxy-benzo[f]isoindole-1,3-dione,
- 7-(3,5-dichloro-phenyl)-5,9-dihydroxy-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoline-6,8-dione,
- 6,7-dichloro-2-(3,5-dichloro-phenyl)-4,9-dihydroxy-benzo[f]isoindole-1,3-dione,

- 4-hydroxy-benzo[f]isoindole-1,3-dione,
- 4-hydroxy-2-phenyl-benzo[f]isoindole-1,3-dione,
- 4-hydroxy-2-phenyl-9-phenylamino-benzo[f]isoindole-1,3-dione,
- 4,9-dihydroxy-2-phenyl-benzo[f]isoindole-1,3-dione,

5 • 4-hydroxy-1-methyl-2-phenyl-1,2-dihydro-benzo[f]indazol-3-one,

- 6,7-dichloro-4,9-dimethoxy-2-methyl-benzo[f]isoindole-1,3-dione, and
- 6,7-dichloro-2-(3,5-dichloro-phenyl)-4,9-dimethoxy-benzo[f]isoindole-1,3-dione, are excluded.

10 4. A compound according to claim 3 having the formula (I),



and their N-oxides, salts, stereoisomeric forms, racemic mixtures, prodrugs, esters and metabolites thereof, wherein

15 X, A, R¹, R², R³, R⁴, R⁵, R⁶, R⁷, R⁸, R⁹, R¹⁰, R¹¹, R¹², R¹³, R¹⁴, y, aryl, Het¹, and Het² are as defined in claim 1, provided that when the A-ring is phenyl, then R² is not hydrogen, methyl, cyclohexyl, nor phenyl; and compounds

- 4,8-dihydroxy-6-methyl-2-oxa-6-aza-s-indacene-5,7-dione,
- 5,9-dihydroxy-7-methyl-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoline-6,8-dione,

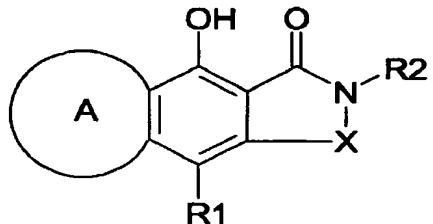
20 • 4,9-dihydroxy-2-methyl-pyrrolo[3,4-g]isoquinoline-1,3-dione,

- 6-cyclohexyl-4,8-dihydroxy-1-thia-6-aza-s-indacene-5,7-dione,
- 7-cyclohexyl-5,9-dihydroxy-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoline-6,8-dione,
- 7-(3,5-dichloro-phenyl)-5,9-dihydroxy-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoline-6,8-dione, are excluded.

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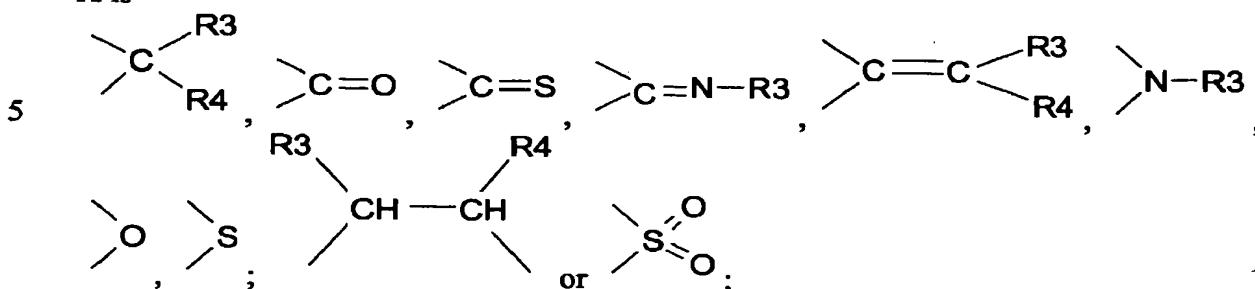
5. A compound according to claim 3 having the formula (I),

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and their N-oxides, salts, stereoisomeric forms, racemic mixtures, prodrugs, esters and metabolites thereof, wherein

X is



A, also mentioned as "A-ring", together with the two carbons of the phenyl ring to which it is attached forms a monocyclic Het²;

10 R¹ is hydrogen, halogen, nitro, cyano, sultam, sultim, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, C(=O)-R⁵, S(=O)_y-R⁶, OR⁷, NR⁸R⁹, C(=NR⁸)-R⁵, optionally polysubstituted C₁₋₆alkyl, optionally polysubstituted C₂₋₆alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted C₂₋₆alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on C₁₋₆alkyl, C₂₋₆alkenyl and C₂₋₆alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, aryl, Het¹, Het², C(=O)-R⁵, S(=O)_y-R⁶, OR⁷, and NR⁸R⁹;

15 R² is hydrogen, C₃₋₅cycloalkyl, C₇cycloalkyl, aryl, Het¹, Het², C(=O)-R⁵, S(=O)_y-R⁶, OR⁷, NR⁸R⁹, C(=NR⁸)-R⁵, C₂₋₆alkyl or polysubstituted C₁₋₆alkyl, optionally polysubstituted C₂₋₆alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted C₂₋₆alkynyl; whereby the substituents on C₁₋₆alkyl, and the optional substituents on C₂₋₆alkenyl and C₂₋₆alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, aryl, Het¹, Het², C(=O)-R⁵, S(=O)_y-R⁶, OR⁷, and NR⁸R⁹;

20 R³ is hydrogen, halogen, nitro, cyano, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, aryl, C(=O)-R⁵, S(=O)_y-R⁶, OR⁷, NR⁸R⁹, optionally polysubstituted C₁₋₆alkyl, optionally polysubstituted C₂₋₆alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted C₂₋₆alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on C₁₋₆alkyl, C₂₋₆alkenyl and C₂₋₆alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, aryl, C(=O)-R⁵, OR⁷, and NR⁸R⁹;

25 R⁴ is hydrogen, halogen, nitro, cyano, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl or C₁₋₆alkyl; y represents an integer being zero, one or two;

R^5 is hydrogen, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, Het^1 , Het^2 , $C(=O)-R^{10}$, OR^{12} , NR^8R^{13} , optionally polysubstituted C_{1-6} alkyl, optionally polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl and C_{2-6} alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, Het^1 , Het^2 , $C(=O)-R^{10}$, $S(=O)_y-R^{11}$, OR^{12} , and NR^8R^{13} ;

5 R^6 is hydrogen, aryl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, Het^1 , Het^2 , OR^{12} , NR^8R^{13} , optionally polysubstituted C_{1-6} alkyl, optionally polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl and C_{2-6} alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, Het^1 , Het^2 , $C(=O)-R^{10}$, $S(=O)_y-R^{11}$, OR^{12} , and NR^8R^{13} ;

10 R^7 is hydrogen, aryl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, Het^1 , Het^2 , $C(=O)-R^{10}$, $S(=O)_y-R^{11}$, or optionally polysubstituted C_{1-6} alkyl, optionally polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl and C_{2-6} alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, Het^1 , Het^2 , $C(=O)-R^{10}$, $S(=O)_y-R^{11}$, OR^{12} , and NR^8R^{13} ;

15 R^8 is hydrogen, aryl, Het^1 , Het^2 , C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl or polyhalo C_{1-6} alkyl;

20 R^9 is hydrogen, aryl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, Het^1 , Het^2 , $C(=O)-R^{10}$, $S(=O)_y-R^{11}$, $C(=NR^8)-R^5$, optionally polysubstituted C_{1-6} alkyl, optionally polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl and C_{2-6} alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, Het^1 , Het^2 , $C(=O)-R^{10}$, $S(=O)_y-R^{11}$, OR^{12} and NR^8R^{13} ;

25 R^{10} is hydrogen, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, Het^1 , Het^2 , $C(=O)-R^8$, $C(=O)-OR^8$, $C(=O)-NR^8R^8$, OR^8 , $O-C(=O)-R^8$, $O-S(=O)_y-R^8$, $S(=O)_y-R^8$, NR^8R^8 , $NR^8-C(=O)-R^8$, $NR^8-S(=O)_y-R^8$, optionally polysubstituted C_{1-6} alkyl, optionally polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl and C_{2-6} alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, Het^1 , Het^2 , $C(=O)-R^8$, $C(=O)-OR^8$, $C(=O)-NR^8R^8$, $S(=O)_y-R^8$, $S(=O)_y-OR^8$, $S(=O)_y-NR^8R^8$, OR^8 , $O-C(=O)-R^8$, $O-S(=O)_y-R^8$, NR^8R^8 , $NR^8-C(=O)-R^8$, and $NR^8-S(=O)_y-R^8$;

30 R^{11} is hydrogen, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, Het^1 , Het^2 , OR^8 , $O-C(=O)-R^8$, $O-S(=O)_y-R^8$, NR^8R^8 , $NR^8-C(=O)-R^8$, $NR^8-S(=O)_y-R^8$, optionally polysubstituted C_{1-6} alkyl, optionally polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkenyl or optionally polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl and C_{2-6} alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, Het^1 , Het^2 ,

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$\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{-R}^8$, $\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{-OR}^8$, $\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{-NR}^8\text{R}^8$, $\text{S}(=\text{O})_y\text{-R}^8$, $\text{S}(=\text{O})_y\text{-OR}^8$, $\text{S}(=\text{O})_y\text{-NR}^8\text{R}^8$, OR^8 , $\text{O-C}(=\text{O})\text{-R}^8$, $\text{O-S}(=\text{O})_y\text{-R}^8$, NR^8R^8 , $\text{NR}^8\text{-C}(=\text{O})\text{-R}^8$, and $\text{NR}^8\text{-S}(=\text{O})_y\text{-R}^8$;
 5 R^{12} is hydrogen, $\text{C}_{3-7}\text{cycloalkyl}$, aryl, Het^1 , Het^2 , $\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{-R}^8$, $\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{-OR}^8$, $\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{-NR}^8\text{R}^8$, $\text{S}(=\text{O})_y\text{-R}^8$, $\text{S}(=\text{O})_y\text{-OR}^8$, $\text{S}(=\text{O})_y\text{-NR}^8\text{R}^8$, optionally polysubstituted $\text{C}_{1-6}\text{alkyl}$, optionally polysubstituted $\text{C}_{2-6}\text{alkenyl}$ or optionally polysubstituted $\text{C}_{2-6}\text{alkynyl}$;
 whereby the optional substituents on $\text{C}_{1-6}\text{alkyl}$, $\text{C}_{2-6}\text{alkenyl}$ and $\text{C}_{2-6}\text{alkynyl}$ are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, $\text{C}_{3-7}\text{cycloalkyl}$, aryl, Het^1 , Het^2 , $\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{-R}^8$, $\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{-OR}^8$, $\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{-NR}^8\text{R}^8$, $\text{S}(=\text{O})_y\text{-R}^8$, $\text{S}(=\text{O})_y\text{-OR}^8$, $\text{S}(=\text{O})_y\text{-NR}^8\text{R}^8$, OR^8 , $\text{O-C}(=\text{O})\text{-R}^8$, $\text{O-S}(=\text{O})_y\text{-R}^8$, NR^8R^8 , $\text{NR}^8\text{-C}(=\text{O})\text{-R}^8$, and $\text{NR}^8\text{-S}(=\text{O})_y\text{-R}^8$;
 10 R^{13} is hydrogen, $\text{C}_{3-7}\text{cycloalkyl}$, aryl, Het^1 , Het^2 , $\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{-R}^8$, $\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{-OR}^8$, $\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{-NR}^8\text{R}^8$, $\text{S}(=\text{O})_y\text{-R}^8$, $\text{S}(=\text{O})_y\text{-OR}^8$, $\text{S}(=\text{O})_y\text{-NR}^8\text{R}^8$, optionally polysubstituted $\text{C}_{1-6}\text{alkyl}$, optionally polysubstituted $\text{C}_{2-6}\text{alkenyl}$ or optionally polysubstituted $\text{C}_{2-6}\text{alkynyl}$;
 whereby the optional substituents on $\text{C}_{1-6}\text{alkyl}$, $\text{C}_{2-6}\text{alkenyl}$ and $\text{C}_{2-6}\text{alkynyl}$ are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, $\text{C}_{3-7}\text{cycloalkyl}$, aryl, Het^1 , Het^2 , $\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{-R}^8$, $\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{-OR}^8$, $\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{-NR}^8\text{R}^8$, $\text{S}(=\text{O})_y\text{-R}^8$, $\text{S}(=\text{O})_y\text{-OR}^8$, $\text{S}(=\text{O})_y\text{-NR}^8\text{R}^8$, OR^8 , $\text{O-C}(=\text{O})\text{-R}^8$, $\text{O-S}(=\text{O})_y\text{-R}^8$, NR^8R^8 , $\text{NR}^8\text{-C}(=\text{O})\text{-R}^8$, and $\text{NR}^8\text{-S}(=\text{O})_y\text{-R}^8$;
 15 R^{14} is hydrogen, phenyl, $\text{C}_{1-6}\text{alkyl}$, $\text{C}_{2-6}\text{alkenyl}$, $\text{C}_{2-6}\text{alkynyl}$, $\text{C}_{3-7}\text{cycloalkyl}$;
 aryl as a group or part of a group represents a monocyclic or polycyclic aromatic or a partially saturated monocyclic or polycyclic carbocycles wherein any such
 20 carbocycle within the meaning of aryl may have up to 14 carbon atoms and may be optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from halogen, nitro, oxo, cyano, $\text{C}_{3-7}\text{cycloalkyl}$, Het^1 , Het^2 , $\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{-R}^8$, $\text{S}(=\text{O})_y\text{-R}^{14}$, OR^{14} , $\text{NR}^{14}\text{R}^{14}$, $\text{NR}^{14}\text{-O-C}(=\text{O})\text{-R}^{14}$, $\text{NR}^{14}\text{-C}_{1-6}\text{alkanediyl-NR}^{14}\text{-Het}^1$, $\text{NR}^{14}\text{-C}_{1-6}\text{alkanediyl-NR}^{14}\text{-Het}^2$, optionally polysubstituted $\text{C}_{1-6}\text{alkyl}$, optionally polysubstituted $\text{C}_{2-6}\text{alkenyl}$, optionally polysubstituted $\text{C}_{2-6}\text{alkynyl}$ and optionally polysubstituted phenyl; whereby the optional substituents on $\text{C}_{1-6}\text{alkyl}$, $\text{C}_{2-6}\text{alkenyl}$ and $\text{C}_{2-6}\text{alkynyl}$ are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, phenyl, $\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{-R}^{14}$, OR^{14} , Het^1 , Het^2 , $\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{-Het}^1$, $\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{-Het}^2$, and $\text{NR}^{14}\text{R}^{14}$; and whereby the optional substituents on phenyl are each independently selected from halogen, hydroxy, $\text{C}_{1-6}\text{alkyl}$, polyhalo $\text{C}_{1-6}\text{alkyl}$, $\text{O-C}_{1-6}\text{alkyl}$, and $\text{C}_{1-6}\text{alkanediyl-NR}^{14}\text{R}^{14}$;
 25 Het^1 as a group or part of a group represents a saturated or partially unsaturated monocyclic, bicyclic or tricyclic heterocycle having 3 to 14 ring members, which contains one or more heteroatom ring members selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, and which may be optionally substituted on a carbon atom or where possible a nitrogen atom with one or more substituents independently selected from halogen, nitro, oxo, cyano, $\text{C}_{3-7}\text{cycloalkyl}$, $\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{-R}^{14}$, $\text{S}(=\text{O})_y\text{-R}^{14}$, OR^{14} , $\text{NR}^{14}\text{R}^{14}$, $\text{NR}^{14}\text{-O-C}(=\text{O})\text{-R}^{14}$, optionally polysubstituted $\text{C}_{1-6}\text{alkyl}$, optionally polysubstituted

C₂₋₆alkenyl, optionally polysubstituted C₂₋₆alkynyl and optionally polysubstituted phenyl; whereby the optional substituents on C₁₋₆alkyl, C₂₋₆alkenyl and C₂₋₆alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, phenyl, C(=O)-R¹⁴, OR¹⁴, and NR¹⁴R¹⁴; and whereby the optional substituents on phenyl are each independently selected from halogen, hydroxy, C₁₋₆alkyl, polyhaloC₁₋₆alkyl, O-C₁₋₆alkyl, and C₁₋₆alkanediyl-NR¹⁴R¹⁴;

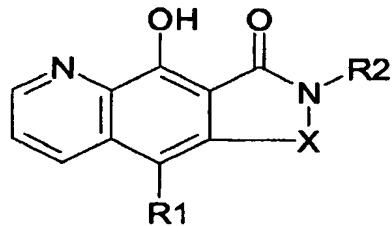
5 Het² as a group or part of a group represents an aromatic monocyclic, bicyclic or tricyclic heterocycle having 5 to 14 ring members, which contains one or more heteroatom ring members selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, and which may be optionally substituted on a carbon atom or where possible a nitrogen atom with one or more substituents independently selected from halogen, nitro, oxo, cyano, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, C(=O)-R¹⁴, S(=O)_y-R¹⁴, OR¹⁴, NR¹⁴R¹⁴, NR¹⁴-O-C(=O)-R¹⁴, 10 optionally polysubstituted C₁₋₆alkyl, optionally polysubstituted C₂₋₆alkenyl, optionally polysubstituted C₂₋₆alkynyl and optionally polysubstituted phenyl;

10 whereby the optional substituents on C₁₋₆alkyl, C₂₋₆alkenyl and C₂₋₆alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, phenyl, C(=O)-R¹⁴, OR¹⁴, and NR¹⁴R¹⁴; and whereby the optional substituents on phenyl are each independently selected from halogen, hydroxy, C₁₋₆alkyl, polyhaloC₁₋₆alkyl, O-C₁₋₆alkyl, and C₁₋₆alkanediyl-NR¹⁴R¹⁴;

15 15 with the proviso that compound 7-(3,5-dichloro-phenyl)-5,9-dihydroxy-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoline-6,8-dione is excluded.

20 20

6. A compound according to any one of claims 1 to 5 wherein the compound has the formula (IIa)



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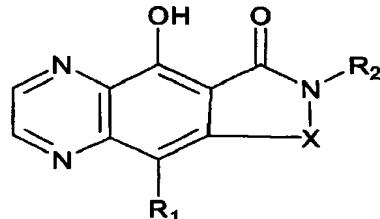
whereby

the pyridinyl ring may optionally be substituted with halogen or optionally polysubstituted C₁₋₆alkyl, optionally polysubstituted C₂₋₆alkenyl, optionally polysubstituted C₂₋₆alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on C₁₋₆alkyl, 30 C₂₋₆alkenyl and C₂₋₆alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, phenyl, C(=O)-R¹⁴, OR¹⁴, Het¹, Het², C(=O)-Het¹, C(=O)-Het², and NR¹⁴R¹⁴; and whereby

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R^2 is not 3,5-dichlorophenyl, nor cyclohexyl, nor methyl.

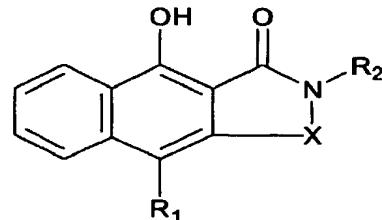
7. A compound according to any one of claims 1 to 5 wherein the compound has the formula (IIb)



5

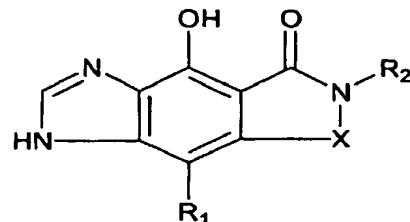
whereby the pyrazinyl ring may optionally be substituted with halogen or optionally polysubstituted C_{1-6} alkyl, optionally polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkenyl, optionally polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl and C_{2-6} alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, phenyl, 10 $C(=O)-R^{14}$, OR^{14} , Het^1 , Het^2 , $C(=O)-Het^1$, $C(=O)-Het^2$, and $NR^{14}R^{14}$.

8. A compound according to any one of claims 1 to 5 wherein the compound has the formula (IIc)



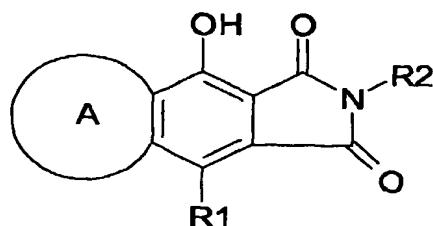
15 whereby the phenyl ring may optionally be substituted with halogen or optionally polysubstituted C_{1-6} alkyl, optionally polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkenyl, optionally polysubstituted C_{2-6} alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl and C_{2-6} alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, phenyl, 20 $C(=O)-R^{14}$, OR^{14} , Het^1 , Het^2 , $C(=O)-Het^1$, $C(=O)-Het^2$, and $NR^{14}R^{14}$; and whereby R^2 is not hydrogen, methyl, cyclohexyl, nor phenyl.

9. A compound according to any one of claims 1 to 5 wherein the compound has the formula (IId)



whereby the imidazolyl ring may optionally be substituted with halogen or optionally polysubstituted C₁₋₆alkyl, optionally polysubstituted C₂₋₆alkenyl, optionally polysubstituted C₂₋₆alkynyl; whereby the optional substituents on C₁₋₆alkyl, C₂₋₆alkenyl and C₂₋₆alkynyl are each independently selected from halogen, nitro, cyano, phenyl, 5 C(=O)-R¹⁴, OR¹⁴, Het¹, Het², C(=O)-Het¹, C(=O)-Het², and NR¹⁴R¹⁴.

10. A compound according to any one of claims 1 to 5 wherein the compound has the formula (III)



10

11. A compound according to any one of claims 1 to 10 wherein

X is -C(=O)-;

R¹ is -OR⁷;

R² is hydrogen, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, aryl, Het¹, Het², or optionally substituted C₁₋₆alkyl;

15 whereby the optional substituent on C₁₋₆alkyl is selected from C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, aryl, Het¹, Het², and preferably is C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, aryl, Het¹.

12. A compound according to any one of claims 1 to 5 selected from any of the following compounds:

- 20 • 7-(4-Chloro-benzyl)-5,9-dihydroxy-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoxaline-6,8-dione
- 7-(5-Bromo-2-fluoro-benzyl)-5,9-dihydroxy-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoxaline-6,8-dione
- 7-Benzo[1,3]dioxol-5-ylmethyl-5-(benzyl-methyl-amino)-9-hydroxy-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoline-6,8-dione
- Dodecanoic acid 7-benzo[1,3]dioxol-5-ylmethyl-9-hydroxy-6,8-dioxo-7,8-dihydro-6H-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoxalin-5-yl ester
- 25 • Acetic acid 9-acetoxy-7-(3,4-dichloro-benzyl)-6,8-dioxo-7,8-dihydro-6H-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoxalin-5-yl ester
- 7-(3,5-Dichloro-benzyl)-5,9-dihydroxy-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoxaline-6,8-dione
- 7-(3,4-Dichloro-benzyl)-5,9-dihydroxy-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoxaline-6,8-dione
- 30 • 7-(3-Chloro-benzyl)-5,9-dihydroxy-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoxaline-6,8-dione
- Dicyclopropanecarboxylic acid 7-(3,4-dichloro-benzyl)-6,8-dioxo-7,8-dihydro-6H-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoxalin-5,9-diyl ester

- 7-(3-Bromo-4-fluoro-benzyl)-5,9-dihydroxy-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoxaline-6,8-dione
- 7-(3-Bromo-benzyl)-5,9-dihydroxy-2-methyl-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoxaline-6,8-dione
- 7-Benzo[1,3]dioxol-5-ylmethyl-5,9-dihydroxy-2-methyl-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoxaline-6,8-dione
- 5 • 7-(3,4-Dichloro-benzyl)-5,9-dihydroxy-2-methyl-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoxaline-6,8-dione
- 7-(3-Bromo-benzyl)-5,9-dihydroxy-pyrrolo[3,4-g]quinoxaline-6,8-dione

10 13. A pharmaceutical composition, comprising an effective amount of at least one compound as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 12, and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.